GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:557
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2007
WORKSHED SCHEME
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of Workshed Scheme for Khadi weavers and artisans;

(b) the date on which it was launched;

(c) the details of beneficiaries under the scheme during each of the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether a similar scheme is also implemented by the Ministry of Textiles; and

(e) if so, the manner in which benefits, would be given to the beneficiaries under both the schemes?

Answer

MINISTER FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a): The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) has, in consultation with Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), drafted "Workshed Scheme for Khadi Artisans" for construction of worksheds for the spinners and weavers in the khadi sector. The main objectives of this scheme in providing financial assistance for constructing worksheds for khadi artisans, are to:

(i) provide better ambience by providing a better workplace to enable them to carry out their spinning and weaving work efficiently, and to

(ii) provide more space for housing their implements and storing accessories, yarn, cloth, etc.

This proposal for the Workshed scheme for the khadi artisans is in its conceptual stage and is expected to be a Central Sector Scheme.

(b): The proposal for formulation of this scheme is still in conceptual stage and is yet to be appraised by the Planning Commission and other organizations/Ministries.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): The Ministry of Textiles (Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms) has proposed to implement the Integrated Handloom Development Scheme (IHDS) during XI Plan of which the Workshed Scheme will be one of the components. The IHDS is yet to be approved.

(e): Under the proposed workshed scheme for khadi weavers and artisans, financial assistance of upto Rs. 25,000/- (subsidy) or 75% of the cost, whichever is less, has been proposed to be provided for the construction of workshed having about 20 square meters space per unit. It is proposed to cover 38,000 khadi artisans during the XI Plan period at a total cost of Rs.95 crore.

Under the Workshed scheme component of the IHDS to be implemented by the Ministry of Textiles, the weavers within and outside the clusters will be covered. For construction of Workshed of 20 square metres financial assistance of Rs.25,000/- is expected to be provided to the weavers from below poverty line category and for other weavers assistance is expected to be only 75% of Rs.25,000/- i.e. Rs.18,750/-.